

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 NASA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05

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EUR: JAARMITAGE

EUR: AAHARTMAN

OES/SCI/SA: DMORRIS

NASA: EANDERSON

S/PRS: SWAGENSEIL

C: WSHINN

NSC;RMACFARLANE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT:PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

THE FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL PRE-LAUNCH MESSAGE SHOULD
BE DELIVERED THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS TO THE SOYUZ
CREW MEMBERS ON OR BEFORE JULY 15:

-- PRESIDENTIAL PRE-LAUNCH MESSAGE
-- TO US ASTRONAUTS AND SOVIET COSMONAUTS

TO THE SOYUZ AND APOLLO CREWS:

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IN A FEW SHORT HOURS, YOU WILL BE OPENING A NEW ERA IN
THE EXPLORATION OF SPACE. ALTHOUGH OTHERS HAVE GONE
BEFORE YOU, YOU WILL BE BLAZING A NEW TRAIL OF
INTERNATIONAL SPACE COOPERATION. NEVER BEFORE HAVE

REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO COUNTRIES LIVED AND WORKED
TOGETHER IN SPACE. IT IS AN HISTORIC OCCASION.
I KNOW YOU ARE PROUD TO BE PLAYING SUCH AN IMPORTANT
PART IN IT.

AS YOU MAKE YOUR FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR LAUNCHING, I
CANNOT HELP BUT THINK HOW FAR WE HAVE GONE IN SPACE IN
SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. LESS THAN TWO DECADES AGO
YURIY GAGARIN AND THEN JOHN GLENN ORBITED THE EARTH,
REALIZING THE DREAMS OF TSIOLKOVSKY, GODDARD AND OTHERS
WHO BELIEVED FIRMLY THAT MAN COULD FLY IN SPACE. SIX
YEARS AGO NEXT SUNDAY, APOLLO 11 BROUGHT THE FIRST MEN TO
THE MOON. THIS MISSION WAS FOLLOWED BY THAT OF THE
SOVIET AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LUNOKHOD. BOTH BROUGHT BACK
SAMPLES OF THE MOON'S SURFACE, AS A RESULT OF WHICH OUR
KNOWLEDGE OF EARTH'S CLOSEST NEIGHBOR HAS EXPANDED
CONSIDERABLY.

YOUR FLIGHT REPRESENTS ANOTHER STAGE IN MAN'S EFFORTS
TO FURTHER HIS UNDERSTANDING OF HIS ENVIRONMENT.
IT HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED SOMETHING ELSE--THAT THE
UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION CAN COOPERATE IN SUCH
AN IMPORTANT ENDEAVOR. SINCE THE APOLLO-SOYUZ PROJECT
WAS AGREED TO THREE YEARS AGO, CREWS, SCIENTISTS AND
SPECIALISTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY
AND PRODUCTIVELY, AND IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, TO
BRING US TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY. I AM HEARTENED BY THE
EXAMPLE OF DEDICATION AND COOPERATION YOU HAVE DISPLAYED.
I AM CONFIDENT YOUR EFFORTS AND EXAMPLE WILL LEAD TO
FURTHER COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WILL BE FOLLOWING YOUR FLIGHT
AND EPIC JOINT MISSION WITH INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM.
ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, I COMMEND YOU FOR
YOUR COURAGE AND VISION AND WISH YOU GODSPEED AND GOOD
LUCK.

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END TEXT

PLEASE INFORM DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF TIME OF
DELIVERY AND TO WHOM DELIVERED.

INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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